

TC1700

Organization  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Bldg./Room

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

If Undeliverable Return In Ten Days

Official Business

Penalty For Private Use, \$300

REMSEN

HOUSTON TX 772

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

*Do not send to...*

Return To Sender  
No Longer @ This Address

NIXIE

773 1

NOT DELIVERABLE TO ADDRESSEE  
RETURN TO SENDER AS ADDRESSED  
10 10/26/06

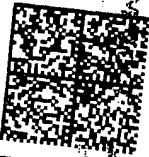
BC: 22313145050

\*0493-01805-26-15

RECEIVED

OCT 8 1 2006

U.S. MAIL CENTER

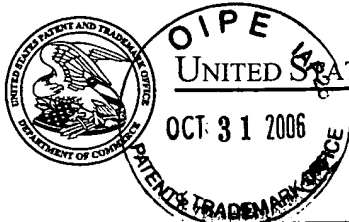


02 1A  
0004204479  
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE

\$ 00

OCT 1

U.S. OFFICE  
PENALTY FOR  
PRIVATE USE



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

IFW

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/033,028	12/28/2001	Richard E. Smalley	11321-P012USD13	1029

7590

10/17/2006

HUGH R. KRESS  
WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK, P.C.  
2400 BANK ONE CENTER  
910 TRAVOS STREET  
HOUSTON, TX 77002

EXAMINER
----------

HENDRICKSON, STUART L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1754

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/033,028	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SMALLEY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Stuart Hendrickson	<b>Art Unit</b> 1754	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 164, 166, 170-174 and 196-198 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 164, 166, 170-174, 196-198 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

Art Unit: 1754

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action. The RCE filed is accepted.

Claims 196-198 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. These claims describe, rather than limit, the other claims.

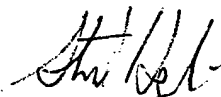
Claims 164, 166, 170-174, 196-198 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) and (b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Kiang et al. J. Phys. Chem.

The reference teaches on pg. 3750 cut nanotubes. SWNTs are depicted, however the discussion is general. In so far as claims 173, 174 require anything beyond nanotubes, then using SWNTs in a battery/fuel cell is an obvious expedient to exploit their electrical properties.

Applicant's arguments filed 8/4/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Even though Kiang does use the same verbiage, it appears that the claimed elements are taught. Claim 164 does not require plural wires on a device and if amended to do so would be restricted. The right paragraph of pg. 3749 appears to describe a homogeneous product; applicant should show differences.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to examiner Hendrickson at telephone number (571) 272-1351.



Stuart Hendrickson  
examiner Art Unit 1754